



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

as well as pleasing glimpses of philosophy that afford variety in the midst of sober statements of fact, though no one can charge the work with wearisome detail or dogmatic generalization.

LINDLEY D. CLARK

UNITED STATES BUREAU  
OF LABOR STATISTICS

---

*Pan-Americanism. A Forecast of the Inevitable Clash between the United States and Europe's Victor.* By ROLAND G. USHER. New York: Century Co., 1915. 8vo, pp. xix+466. \$2.00.

Despite the mild attraction of the main title and the somewhat sensational appeal of the subordinate one, the content of this book handles primarily neither of the topics suggested. Instead, the author declares it his purpose to "make as clear as possible . . . the relation of the United States to the present European situation and to the probable or possible crisis which the end of the war may precipitate" (p. vii). The major part of the volume, he asserts, is "devoted to the present condition of the United States and of Latin America, with especial attention to Pan-Americanism as a possible solution of American problems" (p. vii). If the declaration be accurate, the reader wonders why the main title was selected; if the assertion be correct, he is equally at a loss to understand why the subordinate title was chosen. His dubiety deepens when he discovers, on actual examination of the text, that only 123 pages, or a fraction more than a fourth of the book, deal directly with Pan-Americanism at all, that 127 more have reference to Latin America or some part of it, and that nearly half of the entire work bears simply on a variety of foreign issues or eventualities that may concern the United States.

An unusually elaborate table of contents shows that, after a foreword relating to American problems and the war, the treatise has four principal divisions given over, respectively, to a consideration of "The United States," "The Victor," "Pan-Americanism," and "The Future." As its themes, the first discusses the foundations of American independence, the supremacy of the sea, South America and the West Indies, the supremacy of the Western Hemisphere and our present strategic position. Similarly, the second treats European policies and motives, the "rediscovery" of South America, probabilities of German aggression—which, apparently, turn out to be unlikely—possibilities of English aggression—which are shown, seemingly, to be probabilities—rights of neutrals,

and Japanese expansion and the Pacific. In the third division comes the brief study of Pan-Americanism proper, with particular reference to its vagueness and vagaries, its futility and its future. The closing portion of the work handles certain concrete issues of the future, the prerequisites of independence, the economics and the ethics of expansion, the expediency of the Monroe Doctrine, the argument for disarmament and the price of disarmament. At the end, just preceding a bibliography, an opinion is advanced regarding the difference, for historical purposes, between testimony and evidence, past and present.

From the accumulation of testimony and evidence furnished Professor Usher deduces no very definite consequences for the reader to ponder over. His province has been rather "to analyze, to discuss, and to examine"; to offer "perspective as well as information, a brief statement of jarring opinions and suggested solutions." "Advocacy and proselytizing" he has left "for those who will draw conclusions from the body of ascertained facts" he has gathered (p. viii). The author thus disclaims expressly any intention to set forth views of his own; but he requests potential critics, nevertheless, not to tax him "with inconsistency until they are sure that the statements they are comparing are intended to represent" his own ideas (pp. viii, 327).

Were "ascertained facts" the real premises submitted, conclusions from them might not be so very difficult to draw. The trouble is that by far the major part of the book abounds in anonymous and conflicting hypotheses, assumptions, conjectures, and suppositions. Professor Usher may disclaim responsibility for them himself, but he mentions no one by name, except now and then "Calderon," to whom they are to be ascribed. These *argumenta ad neminem* predicate all sorts of possibilities or probabilities with no prospect of any inevitability in particular, except the certainty of some kind of an economic and political future for the United States and all other nations mentioned in the text. Throughout runs an indication that the world has been, is, and will be organized on a militaristic basis, coupled with an intimation, not so strong, that this will not be the case hereafter. The chief conclusion that the reader is likely to draw from it all is the obvious duty of helping himself from one arsenal of opinions more or less received, in order that he may bombard another of asseverations having about equal validity.

That the book has value as a compilation of viewpoints of many indeterminate writers, possibly including some or all of those cited in the bibliography, is unquestionable. Whether it serves to enlighten or to confuse is another matter. It can hardly be termed a *concordantia*

*discordantium*, because the method of treatment makes any process of reconciliation well-nigh hopeless. It may picture quite faithfully, however, the state of mind of thoughtful Americans who try to figure out how the war may end, and what may be the consequences for the United States.

Since Professor Usher seems desirous of abstention from anything that might exemplify his own knowledge or opinions, or those of any other ascertainable person, except "Calderon," it conduces to no especially useful purpose for the reviewer to point out errors or misstatements. Equally undesirable is it to carp at the variety of definitions of Pan-Americanism (e.g., pp. 203, 206, 207, 212, 216, 217, 225, 239-43, 244, 276, 277, 286, 317, 321, 399), when such a thing, apparently, is held to be without form and void, even if it possesses premises, fallacies, and a future. Into the same category of uselessness falls any criticism of the practice of alluding to "South America" as a "nation" (p. 242), or as a "country" in the political sense (pp. 140, 148), of not always differentiating between "South America" and "Latin America," and any animadversion, also, on the failure to show that these areas have individual, independent states in them, until p. 272 has been reached.

Among the authorities consulted, Spanish-American writers, obviously, were not consulted in their mother-tongue; otherwise it would be difficult to explain the extraordinary misspelling and wrong accentuation of the titles of the works by Torres Caicedo and others mentioned in the bibliography, and the mistaken orthography and identification, in point of time, as well, of the names given on p. 227. Why, it may be asked, are the names of notable writers on Pan-American affairs, such as Bolívar, Alberdi, Alvarez, Romero, Sarmiento, Argüedas, Ortiz, Ugarte, Merlos, Blanco, Abasolo, Orbea, Botero, Fried, and Rowe omitted from the list?

The book is smooth in composition, its style facile, and its language fluent. At times, however, the author appears to have been in a great hurry. Repetitions are somewhat numerous (e.g., pp. 206, 211, 218, 223, 228 ff., 233, 256 ff., 289 ff., 317). Inaccurate expressions, too, are rather frequent. The combined areas of the United States and Latin America (i.e., approximately 12,000,000 square miles), for example, hardly "approach the vastness of European and Asiatic Russia" (i.e., 8,000,000 square miles) (p. 276), unless they do so in a contrary direction! "Ethics" is followed by a singular verb on p. 388 and by a plural one on p. 371. Similar slips are visible on pp. 360, 379, 392, and 425.

Had the book been called "The Foreign Problems of the United States with Some Reference to Latin America: A Symposium of Conflicting Opinions about the Outcome of the War," the content would have befitted the title.

WILLIAM R. SHEPHERD

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

---

*English Economic History. Select Documents.* Compiled and edited by A. E. BLAND, P. A. BROWN, and R. H. TAWNEY. London: G. Bell & Sons, 1914. 8vo, pp. viii+730. \$2.00.

The rapidly increasing interest in English economic history has created a large demand both for textbooks and for source-books on the subject. There are now in print textbooks a plenty, most of them of indifferent merit. This is the first serious attempt to supply a source-book which shall deal adequately with all the obvious phases of the subject. With the exception of the period before the Norman Conquest and of the period since the repeal of the Corn Laws it covers practically the whole field. The material is grouped, chronologically, in three parts, the first part covering the period from the Conquest to 1485, the second part from 1485 to 1660, and the third part from 1660 to 1846. Under these parts there is a further grouping by topics. Part II, for example, has separate sections on rural conditions, on towns and guilds, on the regulation of industry by the state, on the relief of the poor and the regulation of prices, and on the encouragement of industry and commerce. Each section opens with a brief introductory note and a short bibliography of sources and modern books.

Both in the selection of material and in the arrangement of it the editors have shown excellent judgment. The extracts themselves are drawn from all quarters. Almost a third of them have never been printed before, yet the editors have wisely resisted the temptation to print merely what was new and have aimed rather to select good illustrations than unpublished documents. One wonders why they neglected altogether the Anglo-Saxon period. No doubt extracts from Caesar and Tacitus are hackneyed enough, yet they would seem almost indispensable in a collection of documents in which so much emphasis is laid upon the condition of the people on the land. One wonders also why the editors chose to stop at 1846. They justify this decision on the grounds that they had too much material already. This is a time-worn excuse which will hardly satisfy teachers of English economic history in the nineteenth century who are probably more embarrassed than those working in any